

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DHA-02

ORM-02 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 3606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UY

SUBJ: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 220772

1. AS PER REFTEL, EMBOFF DISCUSSED IMPORTANT ISSUES COMING BEFORE 31ST UNGA WITH AMBASSADOR ALVAREZ, FONOFF'S DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN POLICY. URUGUAY'S POSITION ON EACH OF THOSE ISSUES FOLLOWS.
 2. SOUTHERN AFRICA. GOU AGREES WITH U.S. POSITION. HOWEVER, WHILE IT ABHORS AND WOULD JOIN IN CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID, IT WILL ACT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF PROPER RELATIONS WITH A FRIENDLY STATE.
 3. ZIONISM-RACISM. GOU CONTINUES TO SHARE U.S. POINT OF VIEW.
 4. CYPRUS. URUGUAY, TOO, SUPPORTS ROLE OF SECRETARYGENERAL.
 5. WESTERN SAHARA. GOU POSITION PARALLELS THAT OF USG.
 6. UNRWA FINANCING. WHILE URUGUAY SUPPORTS THE WORK OF THE
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UNRWA, ITS FISCAL PROBLEMS PRECLUDE IT CONTRIBUTING FUNDS.

7. INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE AND DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.
ON BOTH THESE ISSUES URUGUAY IS UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. POSITION.
HOWEVER, ITS VOTE WILL BE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF CONSULTATIONS
WITH OTHER STATES OF "THE WEST." GOU PRESUMES THAT WESTERN
STATES AND U.S. WILL TAKE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME POSITION BUT
URUGUAY DOES NOT WISH TO BE ISOLATED AND WILL ACT ON BASIS OF
"WESTERN CONSENSUS."

8. HUMAN RIGHTS. GOU POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS BASED ON THREE
BASIC PRINCIPLES: 1) UNIVERSALITY (CONSIDERATIONS OF ALL,
NOT JUST SELECTED, VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS); 2)
DEPOLITIZATION (NOT USED FOR POLITICAL ENDS); AND, 3)
EQUILIBRIUM (USE OF PROPER INTERNATIONAL CHANNELS AND NOT
INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES).

9. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. URUGUAY WILL GIVE STRONG
SUPPORT TO FRG INITIATIVE.

10. UN BUDGET. GOU IN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITION.
WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE A FEEL FOR CORRIDOR POLITICKING
IN THE UN, ALVAREZ MADE A COMMENT WHICH LEADS US TO
BELIEVE THAT, IF BUDGET BECOMES A MAJOR ISSUE, GOU COULD
BE CONVINCED TO CHANGE ITS POSITION. GOU UN
ASSESSMENT IS APPARENTLY EQUAL TO THOSE OF BOLIVIA,
ECUADOR AND PARAGUAY COMBINED BECAUSE OF PER CAPITA
INCOME CONSIDERATIONS. URUGUAYANS FEEL VERY STRONGLY
THAT SYSTEM IS UNJUST AS IT IGNORES OTHER FACTORS
SUCH AS IMPACT OF PETROLEUM PRICE HIKES (BOLIVIA AND
ECUADOR ARE ENERGY PRODUCERS) AND DEBT BURDEN. THUS,
IF BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS OPEN UP TO DEGREE THAT QUESTION OF
DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL ASSESSMENT ARISES, GOU COULD
BE EXPECTED TO GIVE GREATER WEIGHT TO ITS RELATIVE
ASSESSMENT THAN TO ADD-ONS TO BIENNIAL BUDGET.

11. UN RESTRUCTURING AND EXTERNAL EVALUATION MECHANISM.
URUGUAY FAVORS U.S. POSITION ON BOTH BUT DOES NOT
ASSIGN SPECIAL PRIORITY TO ISSUES. CAN BE EXPECTED
TO GIVE A FAVORABLE VOTE BUT LIMITED MANPOWER WILL BE
DEDICATED TO OTHER CAUSES.
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